

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Initially, although the Office Action Summary page of the Office Action indicates that claims 1-13 and 19-24 are pending in the application, the pending claims also include claim 25, and further include claims 14-18 and 26-28 which have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner has being directed to a non-elected invention.

As required by the Examiner, Applicants affirm their election of claims 1-13 and 19-25 with traverse.

The claims have been amended in response to the rejection of claims 2-13 and 19-24 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, rendering this rejection moot.

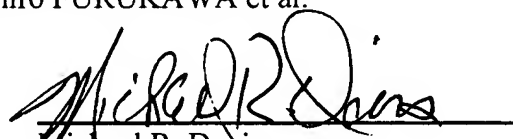
Incidentally, Applicants note that claims 2 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 because they fail to state that a product was recovered. Although this is also true of claim 1, the Examiner has allowed claim 1. The amendments include adding a product recovery step to each of claims 1, 2 and 8.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshiro FURUKAWA et al.

By:


Michael R. Davis
Registration No. 25,134
Attorney for Applicants

MRD/pth
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
October 28, 2004